

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete and revised listing of the claims, with status identifiers in parentheses, underlines indicating insertions, and strikethroughs indicating deletions. This revised listing is to replace all prior versions of the claims.

1. **(Currently Amended)** A contactor arrangement, comprising:

two contactors; and

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a blocking element, wherein the contactors include guides for contact supports, wherein the blocking element is ~~deflectable from~~ in an intermediate position, permitting operation of a contactor when none of the contactors are operated, wherein the blocking element is deflected from the intermediate position to a blocking position blocking operation of the other contactor, by a guide of an operated contactor ~~when upon~~ one of the contactors is being operated, the blocking position preventing operation of ~~an~~ the unoperated other contactor, wherein the guide of the unoperated contactor acts in an operating region on the blocking element ~~if an attempt is made~~ upon attempting to operate the other unoperated contactor, wherein the guides act directly on the blocking element, and wherein essentially only compression forces occur in the blocking element as a result of an attempt to operate ~~it, the other~~ the other contactor.

2. **(Currently Amended)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 1, wherein, when an attempt is made to operate ~~it, the other~~ the other contactor, the blocking element is pressed underneath the operating region against at least one stop, such that the blocking element is supported on the at least one stop during the operating attempt.

3. **(Currently Amended)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 1, wherein, when an attempt is made to operate ~~it, the other~~ the other contactor, essentially only compression forces

also occur in the guide of the unoperated contactor.

4. **(Previously Amended)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 1, wherein side surfaces of the contactors face one another, wherein the blocking element is arranged in a blocking element holder, and wherein the blocking element holder is arranged between the contactors.

5. **(Previously Amended)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 4, wherein the blocking element is pivotable in a pivoting plane which runs at right angles to the side surfaces.

31 6. **(Previously Amended)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 4, wherein the guides act on the blocking element in an operating direction, and wherein the operating direction runs parallel to the side surfaces.

7. **(Previously Amended)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 4, wherein the blocking element holder is arranged at least partially recessed in the contactors.

8. **(Previously Amended)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 7, wherein the side surfaces are adjacent to one another.

9. **(Previously Amended)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 4, wherein the contactors each include one front face and one rear face, opposite the front face, and wherein the rear faces and the blocking element holder end flush with one another.

10. **(Previously Amended)** The contactor arrangement as in claim 1, wherein the blocking element is in the form of a rotating cardioid.

11. **(Previously Amended)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 10, wherein at least three load contacts can respectively be operated via the contact supports.

12. **(Previously Added)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 2, wherein, when an attempt is made to operate it, essentially only compression forces also occur in the guide of the unoperated contactor.

13. **(Previously Added)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 2, wherein side surfaces of the contactors face one another, wherein the blocking element is arranged in a blocking element holder, and wherein the blocking element holder is arranged between the contactors.

B1 14. **(Previously Added)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 3, wherein side surfaces of the contactors face one another, wherein the blocking element is arranged in a blocking element holder, and wherein the blocking element holder is arranged between the contactors.

15. **(Previously Added)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 5, wherein the guides act on the blocking element in an operating direction, and wherein the operating direction runs parallel to the side surfaces.

16. **(Previously Added)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 5, wherein the contactors each include one front face and one rear face, opposite the front face, and wherein the rear faces and the blocking element holder end flush with one another.

17. **(Previously Added)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 5, wherein the blocking element holder is arranged at least partially recessed in the contactors.

18. **(Previously Added)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 17, wherein the side surfaces are adjacent to one another.

19. **(New)** A contactor arrangement, comprising:

two contactors including guides for contact supports; and

5 blocking means for, in an intermediate position, permitting operation of a
contactor when none of the contactors are operated, and for, in a blocking position deflected from
the intermediate position, blocking operation of the other contactor upon one of the contactors
being operated, the blocking position preventing operation of the unoperated other contactor,
β wherein the guide of the unoperated contactor acts in an operating region on the blocking means
upon attempting to operate the other unoperated contactor, wherein the guides act directly on the
blocking means, and wherein essentially only compression forces occur in the blocking means as
a result of an attempt to operate the other contactor.

20. (New) The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 19, wherein the blocking
means is pivotable in a pivoting plane which runs at right angles to side surfaces of the
contactors.
